

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated February 9, 2005 in which the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103, stated that claims 12-14 are allowed and objected to claims 3-5, 8, 9 and 11 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner provides a new Notice of References in which the *Nogami et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,781,994) is listed.

Attached to this Amendment are replacement sheets for Figures 4 and 12.

As indicated above, rejected claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 10 have been cancelled without prejudice and objected to claims 3, 4, 8, 9 and 11 have been rewritten into independent form. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the objection to claims 3-5, 8, 9 and 11 and allows the claims to issue.

Thus it now appears that the application is in condition for reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner find that the application is not now in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner enters this amendment for purpose of appeal.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

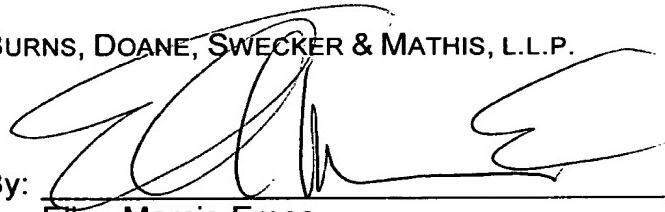
In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time.

The fees for such extension of time may be charged to our Deposit Account No.
02-4800.

In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge
our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 9, 2005

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